

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of the claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A filter paper pod packaging machine comprising a polygonal prismatic wheel with a horizontal axis for intermittently rotating the wheel, each flat face of the prismatic wheel directly incorporating at least one recess matching a size and shape of pods to be produced, wherein a first web of filter paper, fed from a spool and overlaid by a second web of filter paper fed from another spool is wrapped around the flat faces of the polygonal prismatic wheel, and wherein a series of cuts are made by a cutting ~~means~~ device in the first web of filter paper in ~~appropriate~~ positions around a central zone corresponding to the at least one recess impressed in the prismatic wheel and wherein a forming punch is applied on the web in the central zone surrounded by the cuts to mold the web to a shape of the at least one recess, said molding of the filter paper being optimized by the presence of cuts which flare out to facilitate the formation of a depression in the filter paper web by action of the forming punch, while a peripheral zone of the filter paper remains flat and adherent to the face of the prismatic wheel.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein each flat face of the prismatic wheel may be equipped with interchangeable dies having recesses that geometrically match the size and shape of the pods to be produced.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claims 1 or 2, wherein each flat face of the prismatic wheel has a plurality of recesses, either in a radial or axial configuration, in one or more rows.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein the forming punch creates a ~~deeper~~ recess in the web by flaring the cuts ~~to a greater width~~, while a peripheral zone of the filter paper remains flat and adherent to the face of the prism.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein the ~~greater~~ depth of the recess allows a pod to hold the same quantity of compacted product as symmetrical pods, the diameter being equal.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein the recesses feature holes through which suction is applied to attract the filter paper, thereby facilitating moulding of the latter to a shape matching that of the recess during [[the]] operation of the forming punch.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim [[7]] 9, wherein the suction applied through the holes in the recesses remains on even after the forming punch has completed its action in order to assure the adherence of the filter paper to the recesses during subsequent processing.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein the depression, obtained by the action of the forming punch on the filter paper, is

filled with a pre-measured volume of product that will be compacted by means of a specific concave tamping punch for producing symmetrical pods.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The filter paper pod packaging machine of claim 1, wherein the ~~deeper~~ depression, obtained by the action of the forming punch on the filter paper, is filled with a pre-measured volume of product that will be compacted by means of a specific flat tamping punch for producing asymmetrical pods and be subsequently sealed with a flat top made from filter paper (F2) fixed onto the pod along edges adherent to the faces of the polygon prismatic wheel.

Claim 13 (Canceled).